



## REVIEW OF THE WEEK OF JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> 2006

### MEET A BURNS STAFFER

NAME:

*Heather Stefanik*

POSITION:

*Legislative Ass't*

ISSUES:

*Energy, Natural  
Resources*

HOMETOWN:

*Wolf Point*

HIGH SCHOOL:

*Wolf Point H.S.*

COLLEGE:

*Oregon State Univ.*

DEGREE:

*Ag Business*

MOST BEAUTIFUL

PLACE IN MONTANA:

*Fort Peck Lake*

FIRST MET CONRAD:

*In 1987, campaign  
parade, Scobey*

CAREER

ASPIRATIONS:

*Public service on  
energy issues*

INTERESTING FACT:

*10-year member of  
the 4-H; Played violin  
in the Prairie  
Symphonette*

### LISTENING TO MONTANA

**Do you feel the Death  
Tax should be  
permanently repealed?**

Yes No Not sure

**\*\*Please send us  
your thoughts at:**

**<http://burns.senate.gov/deathtax/>**

### Burns Pleased CFAC and BPA Sign Contract to Provide DSI Electricity for Northwest Customers

On Tuesday, June 13 Senator Burns expressed satisfaction that a contract had been signed between the Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC), Flathead Electric Cooperative and the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

"This is positive news for Flathead Valley energy consumers and for CFAC's good employees," said Senator Burns. "CFAC has purchased power from BPA for over 30 years and I am pleased that will continue for at least five more years. Now the employees and consumers can rest easier knowing this deal is done and service will be uninterrupted.

"We at CFAC are extremely pleased to reach this successful conclusion to this long and arduous process," said Haley Beaudry, Manager of External Affairs at CFAC.

"The contract is now signed by all parties. All of the employees and their families at CFAC are breathing a sigh of relief. We are all very grateful to the Montana delegation for its unwavering support and each individual member's persistent efforts on our behalf. Thanks to Senator Burns, Senator Baucus, and Congressman Rehberg, these family-wage jobs will remain in Montana."

### Burns Rejects Call for Troop Pullout; Votes to Support Troops with Funding, Secures \$2.5 Million for Military Voting Initiative

On Thursday, June 15 Senator Burns rejected a legislative attempt to call for a pullout of troops by the end of the year. Instead, Senator Burns supported a \$94 billion spending bill that will fund our troops in the War on Terror.

"I am committed to ensuring that our soldiers have everything they need to fight the War on Terror," said Senator Burns. "In my meetings with Secretary Rumsfeld and in defense and homeland security briefings, I am constantly reminded of the threat we face and the outstanding achievements of our troops in very difficult circumstances. As a veteran, I know we must adequately fund this important effort."

The spending bill included \$2.5 million for a Military Voting Initiative, secured by Senator Burns, that will ensure our troops deployed overseas be able to vote by delivering ballots to troops all over the world electronically.

"For our bravest, we must do everything we can to ensure they have the ability to vote given difficult logistical circumstances, and this funding will be used to make voting more accessible for our soldiers," said Senator Burns.

An effort to require troop pullout by the end of the year was rejected in the Senate 93-6.

## OFFICES

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(406) 252-0550

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(406) 452-9585

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### **Call Conrad's office**

1 (800) 344-1513  
(toll-free)

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### **Email Conrad:**

<http://burns.senate.gov>

## Great Falls Air Wing One Step Closer to Flight; Burns Announces Lease Signed for Northern Border Air Wing Hangar Space

On Tuesday, June 13 Senator Burns announced a lease that has been signed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Great Falls International Airport for hangar and terminal space to house the Northern Border Air Wing.

Senator Burns has been working closely with CBP, a division within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to implement the Air Wing, which gained its entire Fiscal Year 2006 funding through \$18.3 million Senator Burns secured in the Homeland Appropriations bill last year.

"This is an important step in standing up this critical homeland security facility to provide needed security across our long border with Canada," said Senator Burns. "The Air Wing will provide flights in Great Falls starting this summer, and bring jobs, resources, and improved security to the Great Falls community, the state, and to the northern border."

Cynthia Schultz, Great Falls International Airport Director, said, "We appreciate Senator Burns' commitment to border security and look forward to partnering with DHS to expand the Great Falls operation to a permanent surveillance wing."

CBP officials conducted site surveys in Great Falls in January and selected the airport as the best location for immediate implementation, primarily due to available hangar space, an operational runway, and fixed base operators.

As part of the lease, the Air Wing will rent the hangar space, hire up to 34 personnel, and move the assets in to place as early as August 1, including two Blackhawk helicopters, two 550 Cessna Interceptors, and PC 12s (fixed wing aircraft).

Once operational, the Northern Border Air Wing will provide a robust capability in patrolling the border and rapid response.

Until now, the Air Wing and CBP had only hired two employees, who will now complete six weeks of training in order to run the office and hire the remaining 32 people to run the operation.

Senator Burns said, "The Northern Border Air Wing is important to Montana, and critical to our national security strategy. We'll continue to work closely with CBP and local officials to ensure that the Air Wing is up and running in the coming months, providing needed border security missions to our state and an economic benefit to the Great Falls community."

The Northern Border Air Wing is part of a comprehensive CBP strategy employ fast response teams for customs, immigration, and national security missions across the northern border at sites in Washington state, New York, and Great Falls, among others.